

GIGANTIC NAVY PROGRAM MAY FOLLOW ESTABLISHMENT OF MATERIAL CENTER HERE

Expenditures of many millions of dollars on a program which will reach further into the post-war future than ever anticipated will result from the establishment in Torrance of the gigantic U. S. Navy Material Redistribution Center, according to word received here this week. Reports state that a subdivision and housing project to care for 350 families of Navy civilian personnel at the Torrance center is being contemplated. This will be located within the immediate area.

While the original project was declared to involve an expenditure of some five millions of dollars, the over-all pattern for the Torrance center may lead to a total cost of several times that figure, it was said. With the United States Navy already placing in action fleet units many times the size of total pre-war fleets of the strongest nations, redistribution and salvage details may require use of the Torrance center and similar units many years after the end of hostilities, it was declared.

A tentative opening date of March 20 has been set for contracting bids on the \$2,623,000 naval material redistribution and relocation depot at Torrance, Com. S. F. Heim, U. S. N. commander, Naval Operating Base, Terminal Island, announced. Present construction plans call for four 300x600-foot warehouses, one administration building, various garages, paving, railroad tracks, roadways and parking areas, an open storage center, sewage and storm sewers and lighting facilities. Estimated time of construction is six months.

Plans are now more than 60 per cent completed for the depot, Capt. H. E. Wilson (CEC) U. S. N., public works officer at the Naval Operating Base, Terminal Island, declared. By the time the 91-acre tract site is obtained, the contracts should be awarded and work ready to start, he believes.

Prospective commanding officer for the depot is Lieut. Com. Frederick Drake, Jr., (SC) U. S. N. R., who is in Torrance and Los Angeles to assist in developing final plans.

THREE LOCAL CASUALTIES ANNOUNCED

Three local battle casualties have been reported by the government during the past week. Listed as killed in action is Sgt. Wayne D. Garrett, of Lomita.

Cpl. Theo D. Biffin, serving with a tank destroyer armored division, has been reported missing in action in Belgium since Dec. 24. He is a son of Mrs. Schville Biffin, of Saugus, Mass., who is visiting at the home of Mrs. Alwine Uiman, of 26130 Narbonne ave.

Report of the wounds suffered by Pfc Joseph Blich, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Blich, of 22511 Moneta ave., Torrance, is confirmed by the War Department.

Private Blich, who has been in service for the last two years was formerly employed at Calship.

Water System Survey Started

The City Council authorized survey of South Torrance and Waleria water needs and anticipated needs and appraisal of the Quandt water system is currently under way, preliminary work having begun immediately following council authorization of a \$600 expenditure for this purpose.

The work is being done by Taylor & Taylor, Los Angeles area water development engineers, who promised the council they would "pull no punches" in determining the value of the existing system.

The full report on the engineers' findings will be made public after it is submitted to the council.

A favorable report would be expected to precipitate a municipal bond election for purchase of the Quandt system or possibly, if needed, pay for installation of a municipally-owned system.

Two Men Found Guilty of Drunk Driving Here

Two men found guilty of driving automobiles while under the influence of intoxicating liquor were fined in the court of City Judge Otto B. Willett during the past week.

J. B. Taylor, of Harbor City, was fined \$100 on Feb. 19.

B. Pacheco, of 17900 Crenshaw Blvd., was fined \$100 on Feb. 21.

Rainfall Here Is 44 of Inch During Week

Forty-four hundredths of an inch of rainfall was added to Torrance's total during the past week, according to the records maintained by Fire Chief J. E. McMaster.

On Feb. 14, .19 of an inch fell; on Feb. 15, .04; Feb. 18, .01; Feb. 19, .10, and Feb. 20, .16.

Local Sponsor For New Tanker Is Requested

A member of the Jared Sidney Torrance family, for whom Torrance was named, has been suggested as the sponsor of the S. S. Torrance Hills, big high-speed oil tanker being built at the Sausalito yards of Marinship Corporation, according to Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary, Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The keel for the vessel was laid on Feb. 8, and it will require several weeks to build, it was said.

If a member of the family is not available for the launching ceremony, it has been suggested that Mrs. William H. Tolson, wife of the mayor of Torrance, be the sponsor.

Original press releases about the new tanker named for the Torrance oil field spelled the name "Torrance," and this spelling was corrected by the chamber in a letter to W. E. Waste, general manager at Marinship.

Torrance to Benefit by Beach Bill

Torrance is one of the communities in 15 counties of California which will benefit by legislative approval of Governor Warren's program for \$15,000,000 for beach acquisition, according to the Shoreline Planning Association of California, Inc.

The association has asked support of the bill by communities and civic organizations, and recommended a three-point program along this line:

1. That all public officials adopt resolutions favoring this State wide beach acquisition plan, and mail copies to the governor, state assemblymen and senators, and to the association.
2. That all civic, patriotic and fraternal organizations do likewise.
3. That citizens confer personally with assemblymen and senators and inform them of their interest in this shore and beach program.

New ADT System Is Installed at Fire Department

American District Telegraph Co. has installed an open circuit fire alarm register at Torrance Fire Department, according to Fire Chief J. E. McMaster, and this will enable various plants and businesses to have a direct alarm system with the department.

Installed at the request of the Pacific Electric Co. the new system replaces the direct line formerly maintained. Under the new ADT system, Chief McMaster said.

Torrance Boys Are Featured On Radio Hour

Two Torrance residents were heard on the Los Angeles Breakfast Club radio program yesterday morning. They were members of the religious conference, all students at U. C. L. A., and included Don Hitchcock, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hitchcock, of C. C. M. O., who represented Protestantism; Bill Coppenger of Border ave., Torrance, representing Catholicism and Miss Sloan, who spoke for the Jews.

TORRANCE OFFICIAL ACTION ON RUBBISH DUMP PROPOSAL ASKED BY LOMITA RESIDENTS

Lomita residents would like the City Council of the City of Torrance to take official and formal action in protest against the proposed establishment of a rubbish dump in Waleria by the City of Los Angeles, according to a letter on file with City Clerk A. H. Bartlett. Petitions have been sent to the Los Angeles city council and the county board of supervisors protesting the establishment of the dump because of the fumes, smoke and nauseating odors which would emanate from the proposed dump, according to the letter signed by L. W. Fraser, of 25934 Cypress st., Lomita.

While Torrance City Council at its last meeting "tabled" protests from Waleria P. T. A., the letter on file asks for the city to enter an official protest against the proposed movement of the dump from Gaffey and Anaheim sts., to any area in or near Waleria section of Torrance.

The letter reads: Hon. Members of the City Council, City of Torrance, Calif. Gentlemen:

The undersigned has this date filed petitions of protest with the city council of Los Angeles and the county board of supervisors bearing the signatures of 32 residents or property owners of Lomita reading as follows: "The undersigned, property owners and/or residents of Lomita, Calif., hereby protest against the location of a dump for the purpose of burning rubbish in the proposed site of an abandoned quarry in the Palos Verdes Hills in the vicinity of Waleria, Calif.

"We respectfully petition you to disapprove the plans of the Los Angeles city council, park board, or other official bodies of Los Angeles city or county, to establish a rubbish dump in this area on the grounds that:

- "1. It would establish a nuisance in a well regulated residential community.
- "2. It would be a menace to health and decent living because of constant smoke, fumes, and nauseating odors which would be carried by the prevailing winds to long distances into adjacent areas.
- "3. It would abridge the rights of property owners to be free of such nuisances, and would in all probability reduce the value of property in this area without due compensation.

"The undersigned property owners and/or residents live in the area approximately due east of the proposed site of this rubbish dump, and within a distance of about three miles from the site. The prevailing winds blow from west and southwest to east and easterly, and in the event that this rubbish dump is established in the location where it is proposed to be located, the smoke, fumes and nauseating odors would be carried by the winds into the area where the undersigned reside, and it is the opinion of the undersigned that under such conditions they would be subjected to a grave menace to health and to financial loss in the depreciation of their property.

"We therefore protest against the location of a rubbish dump for purpose of disposal by burning, or for any purpose whatsoever, in this area and respectfully petition that plans for such establishment be abandoned."

It is requested that the City Council of the City of Torrance take cognizance of this matter and enter its official protest to the proper bodies involved.

Respectfully,
(Signed) L. W. FRASER.

The petitions of protest were signed by McCoy & Co., by L. B. Sowles, L. W. Fraser, Ferris C. Shafstall, William R. A. Patterson, George J. Scott, Rose M. Patterson, Regina M. Scott, Mrs. D. M. Hart, Mrs. T. C. Roser, H. S. Tregarthen, Alice Tregarthen, Grace Morse, Bertha L. King, Ann P. Crawford, Mrs. J. E. McGinnis, Mrs. D. H. Hoaly, Mrs. C. F. Gotts, Mrs. C. J. Baker, Mrs. C. A. Harner, Mrs. W. J. Alderson, Mrs. Della Powers, Velma Frederick, L. N. Powers, James E. McGee, Mrs. J. E. McGee, P. H. Rowland, T. F. Thompson, Mrs. Geo. M. Miller, Mrs. John P. Swazek, Mrs. C. I. Rydstrom.

All the protestants reside in the vicinity of Cypress st. and 101 Highway, Lomita.

SAILOR KILLED

In traffic accidents reported today Elroy Russell, 21-year-old sailor, was pronounced dead on arrival at Torrance hospital after his car struck a telephone pole on Highway 101 south of Centinela Blvd. early last Thursday.

KEEP YOUR RED CROSS AT HIS SIDE



Red Cross Committees Organized For Fund Drive Starting March 1

An organization meeting of the chairman of the Red Cross fund campaign for the Torrance area was held in Red Cross headquarters last Saturday. Duties and responsibilities of the chairmen were outlined by Area Chairman Harry B. Lewis.

The following chairmen were present to receive instructions: Frank S. Selover, publicity; Mayor William H. Tolson, public employees; Hillman R. Lee, commerce; George L. Johnson, special prospects; Mrs. Lola Hoover, headquarters; Phillip Van Dyke, motion picture theater patrons; Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, geographic; Reed H. Parkin, industrial.

Chairman Lewis stated that the industries are now being organized and supplies provided. The chairmen of the various divisions will appoint their own committees, who will, in turn, appoint majors and captains.

Lewis said that the charter obligations of Red Cross briefly summarized were as follows: To furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of the military branches in time of war; to act as a medium of communication between the people of the United States and their Army and Navy; to mitigate the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, flood, and devise means of prevention; to submit an annual report to Congress, with accounts audited by the War Department.

"The activity of the American (Continued on Page 3)

Hospitality Day at Red Cross Feb. 27

Residents of this area on Tuesday, Feb. 27, will have an opportunity to see the Red Cross Production Corps and its affiliated units in action when "Hospitality Day" will be observed throughout the territory served by Los Angeles Chapter.

Geared to the 1945 Red Cross fund drive starting March 1 with a minimum overall goal of \$5,300,000, "open house" will be the order at more than 300 corps units, project groups, Camp and Hospital Service workshops and surgical dressing stations to enable the general public to see first hand the activity here which has attracted nationwide attention through its record-breaking 1944 year.

During the past year, the Production Corps workers provided the military with more than 196,000 Army and Navy kit-bags alone. Mrs. Edwin Loeb, chairman, volunteer special services, disclosed in making the announcement of the Hospitality Day plans.

Displays and exhibits of the work produced by the Production Corps and other Red Cross "manufacturing" units will be presented in each of the centers, it was announced.

Production Corps stations in this locale which will take part in the chapter-wide undertaking include: Lomita branch, 24644 Narbonne ave.; Torrance branch, 1345 El Prado, Torrance.

TORRANCE BUS LINES WILL INAUGURATE NEW SERVICE ON LOCAL LINES MARCH 1

Torrance Municipal Bus lines, revenue from which has increased by almost one-half during the past few weeks, will be extended to provide further service to residents of the community and employees of the various outlying plants engaged in defense work, according to Manager C. Z. Ward, of the transportation department of the city.

Starting on March 1, in accordance with previously announced plans, Ward will institute more frequent service on the Torrance-Lomita-Waleria-Harbor City-Harbor Hills lines and at the same time make important extensions on the north end of that line.

Ward said that buses formerly operated to 203rd st. and Western ave. will be augmented by additional buses to fill in gaps in service and by extension of the service to 190th st., Crenshaw Blvd., 203rd st., and the Pueblo, Arlington ave. and Cabrillo ave., thus giving service to Bohn Aluminum, General Petroleum, Pacific Electric Co., Columbia Steel Co., and other plants in that vicinity.

The buses on the new route will operate both ways, alternating the trips, Ward said. Schedule of departures and arrivals is printed elsewhere in this edition of the Torrance Herald for the convenience of patrons.

Two Attempts to Enter Ration Office Fail

Two attempts to burglarize the Torrance War Price and Ration board office at 2300 Carson st. failed Friday according to reports.

The first attempt was made during the night when the burglars took a big table, loaned it against the side of the building to gain access to the roof and then tried to force a northeast window. Two panes of glass and a screen were broken, when the burglars were frightened away just before police, called by a neighbor, arrived.

Later another attempt was made, also failing because of the interest of passersby. Nothing was lost, because entry was not gained, and nothing would have been lost because nothing is kept around the place of value—not even gasoline stamps, according to Chief Clerk Frank Daniels.

Police have good clues as to the burglars, and identity of at least one of them can be established, it was said.

50 Calibre Bullet Crashes Through Roof

A 50-calibre, machine gun bullet, apparently from an airplane, crashed through the roof of the home at 2375 Maricopa Place of M. Menni, within a few seconds after he had passed the spot penetrated by the missile.

Menni, a Pacific Electric company cabinet maker who has been disabled several weeks, had gone from his bedroom to the kitchen at 9:23 Monday morning just a short time before he heard a strange noise in the room. He looked around and saw the hole in the ceiling and then noticed the bullet lodged in the floor one and one-half feet from where he had been standing.

Officers at Fort MacArthur were notified, as well as Torrance police and the Torrance Herald.

From the direction of the flight of the bullet, it could have come from an airplane or weapon fired in the vicinity of Palos Verdes Estates or the Torrance army airport, it was said.

Four Pups Left in Telephone Booth at Cafe

"Our mother ran away from us and we don't know our daddy's name."

Such was the touching story told in a note placed to four puppies found in a telephone booth by Mrs. Lena Coldiron when she opened her cafe at 26504 So. Normandie ave. early Tuesday morning. "Handle with care" it warned.

Who left the pups there is undisclosed, but Mrs. Coldiron said that she will care for them until someone who can give them a good home calls for them. The cafe is open after 11 a. m.

Development Of Waleria Park Awaited

The citizens of Waleria are anxiously waiting for the development of their own park according to Geo. P. Thatcher, as the lease on the property, owned by Leslie Phillips, 24841 Woodward ave., Lomita, tractor contractor, is donating time to the community in grading the park. The first improvement is to be a baseball diamond, according to Thatcher who has headed up the effort for Waleria and was instrumental in the purchase of the park site by the Torrance City Council.

Joe Tedesco is lining up youth and adult baseball teams which will be ready for the first call of "batter up" as soon the grounds are ready. Dale Riley, Torrance recreational superintendent, has moved bleachers onto the grounds and states that the weeds will be mowed off and the grounds will be ready for placement of grade stakes by the Torrance engineering department.

Alignment of 203rd St. Here To Be Changed

Modification of the master plan of highways was ordered by the board of supervisors at Tuesday's meeting, according to Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, in accordance with the recommendation of the regional planning commission.

These modifications were the result of study and coordination with city officials of the various cities affected.

The changes made in the Fourth Supervisorial District will affect La Tijera Blvd., La Cienega Blvd., the Terminal Island Freeway, the Los Angeles River Freeway, and will change the alignment of 203rd st. through the city of Torrance in the vicinity of the rubber plants.

Swartout Heads Air Pollution Control Office

Supervisor Ray Darby announces the adoption of an ordinance by the board of supervisors at Tuesday's meeting, creating the office of director of air pollution control.

It will be the duty of this officer to investigate the origin and cause of all known sources of air pollution and to collect information relating to the abatement and elimination of such pollution. Within 120 days it is made the duty of the director to submit to the board of supervisors recommendations for proposed legislation, and from time to time make other necessary recommendations. Under the ordinance all county departments are instructed to cooperate and render all possible assistance.

Dr. H. O. Swartout, county health officer, was appointed as director of air pollution control.